

STANDARD OIL COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA

Presents

"I AM AN AMERICAN"

A Musical Hall of Fame

(36th Annual STANDARD SCHOOL BROADCAST course)

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PROGRAM # 5

NOVEMBER 14, 1963

"PATRICK HENRY"

MUSIC (T):	SIGNATURE THEME (HAUG-DRAGON)	T 1743-1:01
	(ORCHESTRA)	R-47 B-
	MAIN THEME UP FULL FOR :27, THEN TO BACKGROUND & CONCLUDE	
	UNDER FOLLOWING SCRIPT.	

ANNOUNCER: "I Am an American" -- A Musical Hall of Fame -- presented as a public service by the Standard Oil Company of California. Each week at this time we recall the life of an outstanding individual who has been honored by The Hall of Fame for Great Americans at New York University. Through music and the stories of their lives, we reflect the ideals, intelligence, courage and achievements they contributed to our Nation's traditions -- a heritage that makes each of us proud to say "I Am an American."

MUSIC (1):	POSSUM UP A GUM STUMP (TRADITIONAL) (3390)	1:14
	VIOLIN & HARPSICHORD ENSEMBLE	R-98 - B-

SOUND (A)	APPLAUSE AND VOICES IN BACKGROUND EXPRESSING PLEASURE
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GROVER:	Why, Pat! I've known for years that you played the	1
	fiddle, but I didn't realize you were so proficient	2
	at it!	3
HENRY:	(LAUGHINGLY) Oh, thank you, thank you! I hadn't	4
	picked up a fiddle for many months, but tonight your	5
	festive party inspired me. I borrowed a violin from	6
	one of your fine musicians.	7
ZIMMER:	Imagine! The great attorney Patrick Henry -- a	8
	fiddler!	9
HENRY:	(LAUGHING AGAIN) And why not, my lady? Music is not	10
	incompatible with the law -- and it is one of the	11
	voices of liberty -- the liberty of the spirit! In my	12
	life, freedom and music have been interwoven in my	13
	happiest moments. Why, I learned that little tune we	14
	played when I was very young.....it's called <u>Possum</u>	15
	<u>Up a Gum Stump.</u>	16
GROVER:	<u>Possum Up a Gum Stump?</u> -- very colorful title!	17
ZIMMER:	Why, what an odd name!	18
HENRY:	Odd, perhaps, for you grand people of Virginia's	19
	capital, but not for the likes of me, from the back	20
	country. When I was a child, in Hanover County, I	21
	used to see possums in the woods all the time and --	22
	so far as the gum stump is concerned -- there's a	23
	town near Hanover that's named Gumtree. You know,	24
	playing that little fiddler's tune has taken me right	25
	back to my childhood days -- and happy ones they were,	26
	too.....	27

SPARKS: And Patrick Henry, who delighted in conversation with 1
 friends, at the parties he loved to attend, told his 2
 host and hostess about his father, John Henry, and his 3
 uncle, the Reverend Patrick Henry. They had come to 4
 America from Scotland, as young men, after attending 5
 Aberdeen University. In America, John Henry met and 6
 wed a young widow, Sarah Winston Syme, who had a son, 7
 John Syme. By early 1736, John Henry's family also 8
 included John's and Sarah's own first son, William. 9
 They lived at Studley plantation, in lower Hanover 10
 County, about 16 miles north of Richmond. ((Young 11
 John Syme would inherit Studley when he came of age. 12
 In the meantime, John and Sarah lived here and ran the 13
 plantation for him.)) 14

GROVER: At Studley, on May 29, 1736 -- in the Old Virginia 15
 that John Powell suggests in his music -- was born 16
 their second son -- Patrick Henry -- destined to 17
 become famous as "The Trumpet of the American 18
 Revolution," whose voice aroused the American people 17
 to fight for liberty. 18

MUSIC (2):	IN OLD VIRGINIA (POWELL) (3182)	2:50
	ORCHESTRA	R-90 - B-

ZIMMER: ((When Pat was born, the men at Studley were busy with 19
 the crops, before the sultry Tidewater summer season. 20
 The trees were still a lively green and on quiet 21
 nights you could hear the chirp of crickets and the 22
 croaking of frogs in the nearby creek.)) It was not 23
 long before young Pat came to know the country around 24
 Studley. He loved to wander over the fields and 25

ZIMMER: through the forests, with a fishing pole over his 1
 Cont'd. shoulder, a gun under his arm and his pockets filled 2
 with corn pone and cold pork for a mid-day snack. 3
 His early education really came from the country 4
 around him and from his family training, though he 5
 had some regular schooling before he was 10. 6

SPARKS: He rebelled at attending school because, he said, 7
 they taught too slowly in the classroom. And, for 8
 Patrick, this happened to be true. He had the power 9
 of concentration and the ability to learn quickly. 10
 ((He was extremely observant; nothing escaped his 11
 attention.)) 12

ZIMMER: Yes, his father then taught him at home; and he 13
 learned Latin, Greek, French, mathematics and his- 14
 tory. In this way young Pat got most of his book- 15
 learning. He also learned to play the violin, lute, 16
 harpsichord and flute. ((When the family sang 17
 sacred music on Sunday evenings, Pat would accompany 18
 them on the violin.)) By the time he reached his 19
 teens, Pat had eight sisters. His affection for them 20
 gave his character warmth and gentleness, in his 21
 private life. 22

GROVER: Pat also was influenced by the great Methodist 23
 preacher, George Whitefield, who visited Hanover in 24
 October, 1745. Pat quite likely heard or read some 25
 of Whitefield's sermons, one of which contained the 26
 words: "How many of us cry peace, peace, to our 27
 souls, where there is no peace?" Years later, Pat 28
 would use similar words in his most famous speech. 29

SPARKS: To Hanover, in 1747, came Samuel Davies, one of the
greatest religious leaders in colonial America. No
one else, at this period, had a greater effect on
Patrick's future oratory, and probably his ideals of
religious liberty, than this Presbyterian preacher.
((Patrick considered Davies the greatest orator he
ever heard.)) ((Pat's mother, on the way home from
church, would ask Pat to repeat parts of Davies'
sermons, which he heard from the time he was 11
until he was 23.))

GROVER: When Pat was 14, the Henrys left Studley to young
John Syme and moved 20 miles west, a day's journey
over rough roads, mostly through uncleared forests.
((This move took the Henrys from the Tidewater region
of Hanover to its upper Piedmont section, in the
hilly region near the South Anna River.)) Here, at
their new home, called Mount Brilliant, Patrick lived
for about three years.

ZIMMER: When Pat was 15, his father could not afford to send
him to college, so he placed him in a country store
to learn to be a storekeeper. After a year's
training, his father bought a stock of goods for him
and his brother William, and they started their own
store. It failed after only three months. But this
did not bother Pat, for he had a carefree spirit in
his youth that brushed off worry and trouble.

MUSIC (3): TURKEY IN THE STRAW (VIRGINIA REEL) (TRAD.) (630) :35
ORCHESTRA R-16 B-

SPARKS: A few miles from Studley was Rural Plains, the home of 1
young Sarah Shelton. While Pat was living for a while 2
with his half-brother John Syme at Studley, he fell in 3
love with Sarah and went to house parties where he could 4
dance a jig or Virginia Reel with her as part of his 5
courtship. 6

ZIMMER: Yes, and when Pat was 18 and Sarah 16, they were married 7
at Sarah's home. Their parents bought them a small 8
farm, named Pine Slash. The following year their first 9
child was born. They did not do very well at the farm, 10
so Pat again tried storekeeping -- and again failed. 11
And then, when Pat was about 21, in the spring of 1757, 12
their home burned. In the fall, they moved to the town 13
of Hanover Courthouse, where Sarah's father owned the 14
tavern. To repay her father for his kindness in per- 15
mitting them to live at the tavern, Pat helped wait on 16
customers. Perhaps the hand of destiny brought Pat to 17
this tavern, for just across the street was the county 18
courthouse. There Pat must have joined other townspeople 19
in watching the court sessions. This, and his wife's 20
encouragement, probably caused Pat to turn to the study 21
of law as a means of supporting his growing family. 22
After studying just a short while, he headed for the 23
colonial capital, Williamsburg, to take law examinations. 24
It was in early April, 1760, when Pat was not yet 24. 25
That spring was dreary with rains and mists, and 26
traveling on a lean horse along muddy roads could not 27
have been pleasant. 28

MUSIC (4): WILLIAMSBURG: RALEIGH TAVERN (ALEXANDER) (3332) 2:20
ORCHESTRA R-97 - B-

SPARKS: He needed two endorsements from the examining attorneys 1
in Williamsburg in order to practice law. After 2
obtaining one, he went to Attorney General John Randolph. 3
Randolph, judging Pat by his awkward, back-country 4
appearance, at first refused to examine him. But the 5
Attorney General soon discovered, in conversation with 6
Pat, that he had a fine mind, though he needed much more 7
legal knowledge. Finally, Randolph admitted to Pat: 8

RANDOLPH: I will never trust appearances again. If your industry 9
be only half equal to your genius, I augur that you will 10
do well, and become an honor to your profession. 11

GROVER: Perhaps, at that time, Patrick visited the popular 12
Raleigh Tavern in Williamsburg. He and other Virgini- 13
ans would soon make this tavern famous as a landmark of 14
the American Revolution. Here the harmony of popular 15
songs of the day would mingle with the discords of war, 16
as Joseph Alexander's music, Raleigh Tavern, suggest. 17
(MUSIC UP AND CONCLUDE). 18

ZIMMER: Patrick was first recognized as an orator when he made 19
his plea in what was called "The Parsons' Cause." In 20
that oration, which he started hesitantly and awkwardly, 21
he suddenly discovered the power of his eloquence. With 22
new confidence he spoke against the King of England for 23
vetoing a statute enacted by the Virginia House of Bur- 24
gesses regarding the payment of Virginia's clergymen. 25
His ringing words made him the champion of the common 26
people: 27

HENRY: A king, by annulling or disallowing laws of this 1
salutary nature, degenerates, from being the father 2
of his people, into a tyrant, and forfeits all right 3
to his subjects' obedience! 4

GROVER: The gentleman has spoken treason! 5

SPARKS: In these words, Patrick and the King's attorney fore- 6
shadowed the historic event that occurred two years 7
later, on May 29, 1765. This was Henry's 29th 8
birthday, and he had been a member of the House of 9
Burgesses for only nine days. That day he made the 10
speech that many consider the actual beginning of the 11
American Revolution. It was his speech against the 12
Stamp Act, which included the famous words: 13

HENRY: If this be treason, make the most of it! 14

MUSIC (5):	THE PATRIOT (JONES) (3413)	2:03
	TENOR (MANTON) & ENSEMBLE	R-100 B-

GROVER: Composer Stan Jones, in that song, mentions famous 15
utterances of Patrick Henry. For his fiery speeches 16
he became known as "The Trumpet of the Revolution" and 17
also "Son of Thunder." 18

SPARKS: Yes. His was the voice that aroused the American 19
people to revolt against England. When Henry was 20
38, in 1774, he was a member of the first Continental 21
Congress, held at Philadelphia. There, on September 22
5, 1774, he summed up his beliefs when he declared: 23

HENRY: "I am not a Virginian, but an American!" 24

SPARKS: "I am an American!" -- thus Patrick Henry heralded his 1
belief that the people of the colonies should unite, 2
in freedom, as Americans. Later, at that same 3
Continental Congress, he made his stand unmistakably 4
clear when he offered the most drastic proposal anyone 5
had yet voiced: 6

HENRY: "Our independence will be established, and we shall 7
take our stand among the nations of the earth!" 8

SPARKS: And then, about six months later, the most historic of 9
all his utterances was heard. It was in a little white 10
church in Richmond, Virginia -- St. John's Church - 11
where, in March, 1775, the second Virginia Congress 12
had assembled: 13

HENRY: "We must fight!--An appeal to arms, and to the God of 14
hosts, is all that is left us.....Gentlemen may cry 15
peace, peace; but there is no peace.....The next gale 16
that sweeps from the North will bring to our ears the 17
clash of resounding arms.....Our brethern are already 18
in the field.....Why stand we here idle?.....Is life 19
so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the 20
price of chains and slavery?.....Forbid it, almighty 21
God!.....I know not what course others may take; but 22
as for me, give me liberty or give me death!" 23

MUSIC (6): IN FREEDOM WE'RE BORN (LIB.SONG) (BOYCE-DICKINSON) (3251) 1:32
TENOR (MANTON) & BAND R-94 - B-

GROVER: That Liberty Song -- In Freedom We're Born -- reflects 24
the independence for which Patrick Henry fought. It 25
was probably the first American patriotic song, written 26
in 1768 by John Dickinson, to an English melody by 27
William Boyce. - 9 - 28

SPARKS: After Henry's "liberty or death" speech, Virginians prepared to defend their colony against English troops. At this time, tragedy struck Patrick Henry. His wife Sarah died, leaving him grief-stricken and their six children motherless. Despite his grief, Henry took command of colonial militia. After the Continental Congress, English Governor Dunmore left Williamsburg; and Henry was made Commander-in-Chief of all Virginia's defense forces. But, when he was subordinated to another officer, he resigned from the army. After the Declaration of Independence, Wirginia elected Patrick Henry its first American Governor. He took his oath of office July 5, 1776, but a painful, incurable disease kept him from the Governor's Palace at Williamsburg for some weeks.

ZIMMER: The lanky, awkward, back-country lawyer had become the dignified Governor Henry, attired in a fine black suit and scarlet cloak; but his white wig could not disguise the friendliness of his sharp-featured face when he went among the people of Williamsburg.

GROVER: After he became Governor he re-married; and his mansion was graced by the presence of Dorothea Dandridge Henry. The social life of wartime Williamsburg revolved around them. Henry's fiddle-playing days gave way to the formal gatherings to which the former members of the House of Burgesses had become accustomed, as suggested in Max Steiner's music.

MUSIC (7):HOUSE OF BURGESSES (STEINER) (3393) 1:12
 ORCHESTRA R-98 - B-

SPARKS: Henry was elected Governor for three successive one-year 1
terms during the Revolution and later was re-elected 2
three times more, though he declined the sixth election, 3
in 1796. He supported George Washington and his 4
Continental army strongly and won Washington's lasting 5
gratitude. In 1776 he aided George Mason in drawing up 6
Virginia's first constitution. One month later, Mason's 7
constitution became the basis for Thomas Jefferson's 8
Declaration of Independence. In 1777 Henry sent George 9
Rogers Clark to Virginia's Northwest to drive out the 10
British and thereby add a new empire to the United States. 11
And then came the question of a Constitution for the 12
United States. Late in September, 1787, George Washington 13
sent Patrick Henry a copy of the proposed Constitution, 14
for his approval. Patrick Henry did not like it; he 15
had fought many years for liberty, and he feared that the 16
suggested Constitution might not protect the American 17
people's liberty. At the Virginia convention he lived 18
up to his nickname of "Son of Thunder" in his fight to 19
prevent his state from ratifying the Constituion: 20

HENRY: I consider myself as the servant of the people of this 21
commonwealth -- as a sentinel over their rights, liberty 22
and happiness. Liberty, the greatest of all earthly 23
blessings! -- Give us that precious jewel, and you may 24
take everything else! Suspect everyone who approaches 25
that jewel. Let my beloved Americans guard against that 26
fatal lethargy that has pervaded the universe. Whither 27
is the genius of America fled? Whither is the spirit of 28
America gone? -- that spirit which has enabled us to 29

HENRY: surmount the greatest difficulties. To that illustrious 1
Cont'd. spirit I adress my most fervent prayer, to prevent our 2
adopting a system destructive to liberty! 3

SOUND (B): THUNDER CLAP

SPARKS: Nature herself seemed to join the "Son of Thunder." As 4
Henry climaxed his speech, a severe thunder storm broke 5
up the convention. Despite Henry's heroic fight, the 6
convention later ratified the Constitution -- he had 7
failed by a hair's breadth. But he won one great 8
battle: he convinced the convention that the Bill of 9
Rights, prepared by George Mason, should be included, 10
to guard the liberties of the people. And he lived to 11
see practically all his other objections to the Con- 12
stitution eliminated. After the convention, in the 13
best tradition of democracy, he accepted the majority 14
decision and pledged allegiance to the federal govern- 15
ment. 16

MUSIC (8): THE FED.CONST.& LIBERTY FOREVER (HEWITT-MILNS)(3280)1:32
TENOR (MANTON) & BAND R-95 - B-

ZIMMER: Patrick Henry's increasing illness made him prema- 17
turely old, and he retired in 1794, when he was 58. 18
He had spent several years working hard at law cases 19
and land transactions, to pay his debts and provide 20
for his 17 children. In 1795 he bought a modest home, 21
called Red Hill. 22

SPARKS: Yes. Washington, Jefferson and Adams tried to bring 23
him out of retirement. Because of ill health he de- 24
clined offers of Washington to become Secretary of 25
State, or Chief Justice, or Minister to Spain, and 26

SPARKS: President Adams' offer to make him Minister to France. 1
 Cont'd. He refused to become a Senator in Virginia and 2
 declined a sixth term as Governor. 3

ZIMMER: His married children came to see him often at Red 4
 Hill and he was happiest when he was surrounded by 5
 his grandchildren, for whom he loved to play the 6
 fiddle. 7

MUSIC (9): POSSUM UP A GUM STUMP (TRADITIONAL) (3390) 1:14
 VIOLIN & HARPSICHORD ENSEMBLE R-98 - B-

SPARKS: But even this personal liberty of his was not to last. 8
 During the crisis of 1799, when war threatened again 9
 and Washington had been made Commander-in-Chief by 10
 President Adams, Washington sent Henry an urgent call 11
 to seek election again to the Virginia Assembly, to 12
 aid in the crisis that faced the Nation. He answered 13
 Washington: 14

HENRY: I should be unworthy the character of a republican or 15
 an honest man if I withheld from the government my 16
 best and most zealous efforts. 17

SPARKS: And so, prematurely old and feeble, Patrick Henry 18
 dramatically re-appeared publicly in March, 1799, in 19
 answer to the call of his beloved country and his 20
 friend George Washington. His eloquence again won 21
 him election to the Assembly; but the effort had been 22
 too great: before he could take his place in the 23
 Assembly he died at Red Hill, just three months after 24
 his election and six months before Washington himself 25
 died. 26

MUSIC (10): MARCH OF DESTINY (DRAGON) (3146) 7:22
 ORCHESTRA - 13 - R-91 - B-

GROVER: And so, in 1799, the march of destiny removed two 1
great American patriots from the scene of action -- 2
George Washington, "The Sword of the Revolution," and 3
Patrick Henry, "The Trumpet of the Revolution." Next 4
week, we shall tell you the story of "The Pen of the 5
Revolution" -- Thomas Jefferson. We cordially invite 4
you to join us each week at this time when, with words 5
and music, sounds and drama, we are endeavoring to 6
reveal what it means to say "I am an American." This 7
program was written and produced by Adrian Michaelis, 8
Program Manager. Soloist on this week's program was 9
tenor Raymond Manton. The words of Patrick Henry were 10
read by Bob Anderson. Your narrators were Norma 11
Zimmer, Hale Sparks and I -- John Grover. Remember: 12
next week the story of another great patriot honored 13
at The Hall of Fame for Great Americans at New York 14
University -- Thomas Jefferson. 15

MUSIC (T): SIGNATURE THEME (HAUG-DRAGON) (1740) :57
ORCHESTRA R- - B-

ANNOUNCER: "I Am an American" -- A Musical "Hall of Fame" -- the 16
36th Annual Standard School Broadcast Series -- 17
presented transcribed as a public service by the 18
Standard Oil Company of California. 19

MUSIC (T): SIGNATURE THEME (HAUG-DRAGON) T 1740 - :57
(ORCHESTRA) R- B-
PRE-THEME IN B/G UNDER FOREGOING SCRIPT: THEME IN
CLEAR, UP FULL & CONCLUDE BEFORE READING OF FOLLOWING
SIGNOFF:

ANNOUNCER: "I Am an American" -- A Musical Hall of Fame - the 36th 20
Annual Series of the Standard School Broadcast - is 21
presented transcribed by the Standard Oil Company of 22
California. - 14 -